

REMARKS

Summary

Claims 1, 2 and 4-13 were pending. Claims 1, 2, 4-9 and 11-13 were rejected and Claim 10 was objected to in the present Office action. No new matter has been added. The Applicants express appreciation to the examiner for the detailed explanations of the reasons for rejection of Claims 1 and 11 that has been provided in the advisory actions. Claim 10 has been rewritten as an independent and introduced as new Claim 14. Claim 10 has been cancelled.

Claim Rejections

35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-9 and 11-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Khutoryansky et al. (US 5,636,259; "Khutoryansky").

The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection; however, in order to expedite the issuance of the application, Claim 1 has been amended to re-state the claimed subject matter.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Khutoryansky as applied to Claim 1, and further in view of Horbascheck (US 2002/0118793; "Horbascheck"). Nothing in Horbascheck is cited to overcome the deficiencies in the rejection of Claim 1. Thus, the combination of the references does not teach all of the elements and limitations of Claim 6, and the claim is therefore not obvious.

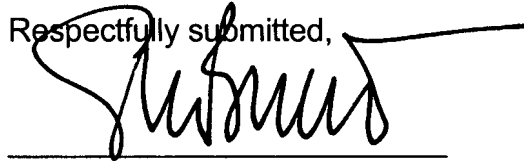
Conclusion

Claims 1, 2 and 4-9 and 11-14 are pending.

For at least the reasons given above, the Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are allowable and looks forward to the early issuance of a Notice of Allowance.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned in the event that a telephone interview would expedite consideration of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sid Bennett', is written over a horizontal line.

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